



Works of art: Jane Fonda's My Life So Far is out today, and the actress, exercise entrepreneur and activist says she wrote the autobiography in "layers." In the background at her Atlanta loft are Andy Warhol's images of her.

Fonda's 'Life So Far' a newly opened book

Autobiography holds nothing back on bulimia, Vietnam, sex

Cover story



By Donna Freydkin USA TODAY

ATLANTA - This is not where a movie star is supposed to live.

The street Jane Fonda calls home is in what real estate agents might call a "transitional" neighborhood. It's industrial. Run-down, And right in downtown Atlan-ta, a five-minute drive from the pied-à-terre she once shared at the CNN Center

with ex-husband Ted Turner.

To get to Fonda's loft, an open space filled with white couches, minimalist tables, books and ethnic-looking knick-knacks, you park on the street, walk to her building and ring a buzzer.

After her assistant answers the door and then serves water in the living room, Fon-da emerges from her kitchen, all layered hair, perfectly made-up face and lightly ameriaco

When it's suggested that someone of her stature might be expected to live in the more posh buckhead neighborhood or a suburban gated community, Fonda vehe-

"Oh, no!" she says. "I chose to live here.
This is really great. When I lived in California, I didn't live in Beverly Hills or Bel Air. I lived in Santa Monica before it was chic."

She says she wanted to be near her daughter, Vanessa, who lives nearby. And she chose a grittler area because "I wanted to make a statement."

Throughout her career, Fonda, 67, has been all about making statements, some more well-received than others. Now she has mined her fertile history in a candid memoir, My Life So Far, out today (Random House, \$26.95).

in the book, she discusses momentous

events, including:

The secret suicide of her mother, Frances Seymour Fonda, when Fonda was 12. She learned that her mother had killed herself from an article in a movie magazine. "I knew instantly this was the truth,

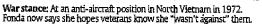
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sensation: Chosen to save the world in 1968's Barbarella.











Marriage 2: With California Assembly-man Tom Hayden and son Troy in 1982.



Marriage 3: With TV network owner Ted Turns in 1991. They would divorce 10 years later.

1972: Wins best-actress Oscar for Klute; makes controversial trip to

North Vietnam. 1973: Divorced from Vadim: marries anti-war activist Tom Hayden while pregnant with Hayden's son, Itoy Garity (born July 7) 1977: Plays playwright Lillian Hell-man in Julia (nominated for best-

actress Oscar) 1978: Stars in the Vietnam drama

Coming Home
1979: Wins second best-actress

Oscar, for Coming Home

1979: Stars as a reporter in power-plant drama The China Syndrome (nominated for best-actress Oscar) 1980: Plays a harried office worker in 9 to 5

1981: Co-stars for the only time with father Henry in On Golden Pand (nominated for supportingactress Oscar)

1982: Releases the first Jane Fonda's Workout, which remains the top-grossing home video 1986: Plays an alcoholic in The

Morning After (nominated for best-

actress Oscar)
1990: Divorced from Hayden;
appears in Stanley & Iris, last movie
before a 15-year hiatus from Hollywood

1991: Marries Ted Turner 1995: Founds the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention

2001: Granted a divorce from

Turner
2005: Stars in the cornedy Mon-ster-in-Law with Jennifer Lopez. opening May 13

ids keep her honest; 'Monster' keeps her working

that they had lied to me about the heart attack."

The bullmin that started while and producing by the time I me book as honest as possible to the result of the bullmin that started while attorish, it became a done became a done became a done became a done and the boarding school in New York. "For me the disease lasted, in one form thages and two children, until I was per large, nor dell my children and point of the consummate controlling parent of my friends and colleagues."

* Her sexually experimental relationship with her first indiband. Which inwived threesomes with fire sexually experiments it was even I who did the soliciting."

* The notorious 1972 trip to laby-blue sweatsuit she's wearing on a North Vietnam and the photo of havy-blue sweatsuit she's wearing and continue to pay a dim reported by the British tab. Per marriage to barbane and continue to pay a dim reported by the British tab. Per marriage to the missing ment of the provide ment for the warmed fordaby his side, rine, but she writes that the "buck the green, furne, but led gereen, furne, but she writes that the "buck the green, furne, but led gereen, furne, but she writes and serious the folders. The armingen to have placed in memoir made waves with tracture for the pay a dim reported by the British tab pay attemt on, After being out of the understand why you marriage to the more than 40 films, strived to make writes that the pay a dim reported by the switter and the provide ment for the writes that the pay at t

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The what I did, And then few days later that s what I really fid.

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Writing and crying are went through a six-month period of writer's block of which were very, very important is entroped. There were certain things, like choice, Sometimes it was my she's writing about my mother, where the were certain things, like choice, Sometimes it was my she's writing about my mother, where the feel and myself really, really cold, erial-shaking, teeth chattering. There they book as the were through a starting with were times I'd be writing, and I was earth for my mother did who could lake me furtier down this is the book as the wera my mother did who could lake me furtier down to the very very getfic.

Her children, Vanessa, 36 (with second which were trally, really leighful in the book as the went along, as did Hay-be were trally, really leighful in second martied).

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both explain and hold herself ac-countable for her more controver-sial choices, most notably her 1972 visit to North Vietnam.

Her relationship with Vanessa is "a work in progress. It's never too lale. I learn a lot from watching her When she tells me trings about

in About that photograph

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